

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
**(Div. Application of U.S. Patent Application** :  
**No. 10/323,754, filed December 20, 2002, which** )  
**is a Division of U.S. Patent Application** :  
**No. 10/178,229, filed June 25, 2002, now** )  
**U.S. Patent No. 6,577,823 issued June 10, 2003,** :  
**which is a Continuation of U.S. Patent** )  
**Application No. 09/879,184, filed June 13, 2001)** )  
Examiner: UNASSIGNED  
Minoru Matsuguma, et al. :  
Art Unit: UNASSIGNED  
Application No.: UNASSIGNED :  
Filed: December 10, 2003 :  
For: METHOD OF DETECTING LIFE :  
OF IMAGE BEARING MEMBER, :  
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, AND :  
CARTRIDGE :  
October 10, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

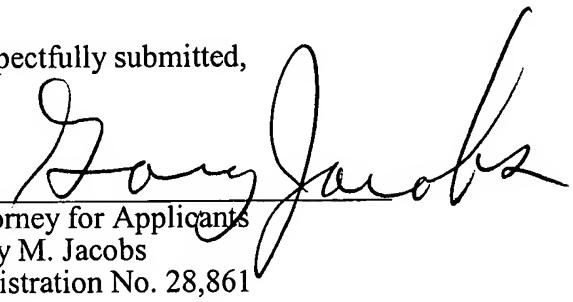
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. These documents were cited in great-grandparent Application No. 09/879,184, filed June 13, 2001, in grandparent Application No. 10/178,229, filed June 25, 2002, and in parent Application No. 10/323,754, filed December 20, 2002. Therefore copies are not being provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that an annotated copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned with the next official communication indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO 1449 ( <i>modified</i> )  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Date: October 10, 2003			ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.0 15447.3</b>	APPLICATION NO. Div. of 10/323,754			
			APPLICANT <b>Minoru Matsuguma, et al.</b>				
			FILING DATE <b>October 10, 2003</b>	GROUP <b>UNASSIGNED</b>			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	<b>5,426,488</b>	<b>6/20/95</b>	<b>HAYAKAWA, ET AL.</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>219</b>		
	<b>5,420,671</b>	<b>5/30/95</b>	<b>KISU, ET AL.</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>219</b>		
	<b>5,835,818</b>	<b>11/10/98</b>	<b>HOSHIKA, ET AL.</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>26</b>		
	<b>5,278,612</b>	<b>1/11/94</b>	<b>INUI</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>26</b>		
	<b>5,907,739</b>	<b>5/25/99</b>	<b>TSUNEMI, ET AL.</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>26</b>		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
	<b>4-51259</b>	<b>2/19/92</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
	<b>5-188674</b>	<b>7/30/93</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
	<b>4-98265</b>	<b>3/30/92</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
	<b>6-180518</b>	<b>6/28/94</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
	<b>63-149669</b>	<b>6/22/88</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
	<b>1-267667</b>	<b>10/25/89</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
	<b>6-130732</b>	<b>5/13/94</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
	<b>5-333626</b>	<b>12/17/93</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abst.</b>	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED						

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.